

LUCINDA McDERMOTT PIRO

Contact Information:

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Lifelong Passion for Teaching the Arts

Summary of Qualifications:

Experience teaching theatre and multi-arts to children of all ages in culturally diverse situations, experience integrating arts and core subjects, ability to differentiate and customize learning for individual learners, lifetime participant in theatre, music, dance, and visual art. Program director and teacher for K-12 in arts based learning. Community organizer, and arts advocate.

- Teaching Fellow with A+ Arts Integrated School Programs, helping teachers effectively and meaningfully integrate arts with standards. Trainer of Teaching Artists in Arts-Integrated strategies.
- Recognized for skills in: teaching, directing, communication, public speaking, creative and persuasive writing, research, for seeing the big picture, creative problem solving, and collaboration.
- Independently produced or assisted with community theatrical efforts: For the Radford, VA community, brought Roanoke Children's Professional Theatre production *Eric and Elliot*, resource for local drama programs such as Radford High School, Pulaski High School (nominated and sent PHS Drama to Scotland), Judge of many theatre competitions, directed for Women's Studies of Radford University (benefitting Radford Women's Resource Center), created Play Away the Hunger (Radford Food Pantry benefit concert),
- Reputation for the ability to galvanize and inspire volunteers, quickly assesses and adapts to situations and diverse cultures, able to recognize needs and develop creative strategies to bring about desired changes

Education

MFA, University of Virginia, Theatre/Playwriting

BFA, Virginia Commonwealth University, Theatre/Performance

A+ Arts Integrated School Program, Teaching Fellow
Certified Leadership Effectiveness Trainer

Teaching Experience K-12

- Instructor: Acting Foundations, Beginning Playwriting, The Biz of the Biz at Virginia Governor's School Summer Residential Program, Grades 11-12th. Radford Univ. 2013
- Instructor of Creating Solo Performance, and Flash Mob Improv at Virginia Governor's School Summer Residential Program, Grades 11-12th. Radford Univ, 2010.
- Instructor, Improv, for ArtsXtreme Summer Workshop, a Multi-Arts Camp on the campus of Radford Univ. Grades 9th-12th) 2006
- Assistant Director and Instructor for EMITT (Exploring Multiple Intelligence Through Theatre) at Va Tech. Grades K-6th 2006 and 2009
- Acting instructor for Youth Ensemble 1 and Youth Ensemble 2 through Mill Mtn. Theatre. Grades 9-12th. 2006
- Playwright in Residence for Catawba County Public Schools through Playworks, NC Theatre Educators Assoc. Grades 7th and 12th. 2005
- Teaching Artist, arts integration with language arts through the Wilma Theatre Education Dept, Philadelphia, PA. Grades 7- 8th. 2001-2002

- - - Teaching Experience K-12 continued on next page - - -

- Teaching Artist/outreach with InterAct Theatre, Philadelphia, PA. 2001-2002. Grades 4th, 7th, 9-12th.
- Teaching Artist at The Governor's School of the Arts, Norfolk, VA . Courses taught included Playwriting, Acting, Mask Workshop, Drama Lit, Theatre History, Care of the Artist. Grades 9th-12th. 1999-2002
- Theatre Instructor for Live Arts Summer Theatre Institute, Charlottesville, VA. Taught Mask Work. Built a set of masks for workshop use. Grades 5th – 12th. 1999
- Theatre Instructor for VA Stage Company Summer Theatre Camp at VA Beach Fine Arts Center, "Building Theatre", created a comprehensive course integrating playwriting, acting, and directing for ages 12 to 15. 1996

University Teaching, and Professional Workshops

Facilitator for Professional Development Workshops of Richmond Public School teachers	2014-current
University of Richmond, Joan Oates Institute. Workshop in Arts Integration, "Devised Theatre: Connecting Content Theatrically"	2017
Richmond Performing Arts Alliance, Professional Development Workshop for Teaching Artists in Arts Integration with Joe Appleton, A+ Fellow and Early Childhood Learning Consultant, Richmond, Va.	2017
Richmond Performing Arts Alliance, Professional Development Workshop for Teaching Artists in Arts Integration with Kofi Dennis of Wolf Trap, Richmond, Va.	2017
Professional Development for Binford Middle School, "Collaborative Lesson Planning for Arts Integrated Lessons", Richmond, VA	2017
Richmond Performing Arts Alliance, Professional Development Workshop for Teaching Artists in Arts Integration with Lola Davis-Jones, A+ Fellow, Richmond, Va.	2016
Facilitated Conflict Management/Effective Communication workshops for Colonial Williamsburg	2015-2016
Guest Teaching Artist for Muse Machine, three day Teacher Institute, "Thinking Like an Artist". Dayton, Ohio	2015
Teaching Fellow with the A+ School Program of North Carolina, Arts Integration Workshops for teachers. Facilitating integration of the arts into core curriculums. Conducting workshops. Specialties: theatre, creative writing, and music	2011-15
Visiting Professor teaching Playwriting. Dramaturg for devised piece <i>The Be[YOU]ty Project</i> Washington & Lee University, Lexington, Virginia, Department of Theatre and Dance	2013-14
Playwriting Workshop "Page to Stage" at San Miguel International Literary/Writer's Conference	2013
Assistant Professor teaching Acting, Playwriting, Theatre Appreciation, Directed <i>The Ice Wolf</i> . Department of Theater and Dance, Radford University, Radford, Virginia (year contract)	2011-12
Adjunct Professor teaching Acting, Playwriting, Theatre Appreciation, Radford University.	2006-10
Adjunct Professor teaching Intro to Acting, Virginia Tech, Blacksburg, Virginia	2009-10
Adjunct Professor teaching Playwriting, Theatre Appreciation, Radford University	2007-09
Assistant Professor teaching Playwriting, Acting I and II, and Theatre Appreciation. Directed <i>The Dark at the Top of the Stairs</i> and <i>Vanities</i> , Radford University (2 year contract)	2003-05

- - - University Teaching and Professional Workshops continued on next page - - -

Workshop Facilitator for *Playwrights: Think Outside the Box* at SouthEastern Theatre Conference 2004

Adjunct Professor teaching the Theatre Experience, Old Dominion University, Norfolk, Virginia 2002-3

Taught Seminar on “The Business of Acting”, Hampton University, Hampton, Virginia 2002

Assistant Professor teaching Playwriting, Improvisation, Oral Communication, Monologue/Audition Techniques, Directed *Black Pearls*, Dramaturg for *Shakuntala*, Hampton University, Hampton, Virginia

Workshop Facilitator for *Maskwork: An Integrated Approach to Physicalization*, Southeastern Theatre Conference 1999

Adjunct Professor teaching Acting III, Virginia Commonwealth University, Richmond, Virginia 1999

Adjunct Professor teaching Oral Interpretation, University of Virginia, Charlottesville, Virginia, 1999

Programming for Drama and the Arts

Director of Education for Richmond Performing Arts Alliance (formerly Richmond CenterStage) Provide Professional Development for Richmond Public School teachers as part of the Kennedy Center’s Partners In Education, engage with community organizations to create opportunities for area children in the arts, advocate to various community groups, agencies, and government offices for arts education, manage and provide space for arts organizations. (current)

Manager of Dramatic Arts for Colonial Williamsburg Foundation. Program planning and creation. Oversight of the quality of performance of Actor Interpreters. Stage direction, oversight of the direction/production of all “Revolutionary City” staged scenes. Playwright, and dramaturg. 2015-2016

Virginia Governor's School Summer Residential Program

Adjudication for Theatre Program Auditioned and interviewed over 200 students for program 2015

Director and Instructor for the Theatre Program. Planned program, hired and developed staff, taught courses in Playwriting, Acting, Biz of the Biz. 2013

Director for the School of Visual & Performing Arts. Planned, implemented programming for a month long residential program for 400 students, directly responsible for 200. Hired and trained seventeen faculty members, oversaw curriculum. Reviewed, screened, and selected students. Taught courses in Devised Theatre and Pop Culture Theatre. 2010

ArtsXtreme Summer Workshop. Created, founded and directed a theatre summer workshop for the Lyric Theatre (non-profit), Blacksburg, VA. Provided instruction for children ages six to eighteen. 2009

EMITT (Exploring Multiple Intelligences Through Theatre), Director for program sponsored by the Lyric Theatre and Virginia Tech's Department of Theatre. Grades K-6 2007
Assistant Director for program sponsored by the Lyric Theatre and Virginia Tech's Department of Theatre. Grades K-6 2006

ArtsXtreme Summer Workshop. Created, founded and directed a multi-arts summer camp on the campus of Radford University. Hired and supervised faculty and staff. Provided instruction for children ages six to eighteen in visual and performing arts. 2006

Community Based Projects and Outreach

Play Away the Hunger, a benefit concert to raise money and collect food donations for the Radford, Virginia Food Pantry. Donations solicited and received from businesses for venue, water, food, portojohns for the event. Organized within two weeks, over \$9000 raised and two truckloads of food donated. 20 musicians donated time and talent, attracted over a dozen volunteers. 2014. Volunteer position.

Eric and Elliot, a play written by Dwayne Hartford addressing teen depression and suicide. Raised \$1000 within three weeks, presented and promoted this play produced by Roanoke Children's Professional Theatre Company to Radford High School free of charge. The performance was followed by a talkback with area mental health professionals. 2013. Volunteer position.

Stop Hunger Now Packaging Event. In response to the earthquake in Haiti, as director of Canterbury Episcopal Fellowship at Radford University, organized this event and fundraising. Secured sponsorship club partners within the university community. Raised over \$10,000 in a month to package 40,000 meals. 2010

One Billion Rising, co-producer and director with Women's Studies Club of Radford University. Raised campus and community awareness for violence against women to over 3000 participants and over \$5000 for the Women's Resource Center of the New River Valley during Women's History Month. 2009-2015

MoMologues. Through a grant with **InterAct Theatre, Philadelphia**, taught creative writing for teenage, single mothers in two group homes using their life experiences. These writings were crafted into an original performance piece performed by the women for family and friends at a gala event. 2003

The Inferno, commissioned by Chrysler Museum of Art's Education Department, Norfolk, Virginia, to adapt Dante's *The Divine Comedy's* first three cantos into a performance piece, as well as produce and direct it to accompany their Rodin exhibit. Performed in the Chrysler's atrium. 2002

Photographers on Photography, commissioned by Chrysler Museum of Art in Norfolk, Virginia's Hallmark touring exhibition of "A Century of American Photography", in collaboration with their curator of photography. A performance piece based on adaptation of writings about photography & photographers. 2001

Collaborated with the **County of Roanoke, Virginia** to create a series of workshops on How the Arts Inform Leadership. Designed and implemented several cohorts for the County of Roanoke and the City of Roanoke. 2005-2007.

Facilitated Town Hall meeting between artists, non-profit groups and the **Lyric Theatre, Blacksburg, Virginia** to discuss the needs of a Community Arts Office. 2009.

Various Theatre Experience

Directing, playwriting, acting, production, dramaturgy, stage-managing, stage make-up, on-camera
Resumes for Theatre Experience available upon request

Publications

McDermott, L. (2011). Afterward. In Douglas O. Cumming's *The Lexington letters: two centuries of water under the bridge*. (p. 289) Buena Vista, Va: Mariner Publishing.

McDermott, L. (2008). O'Keeffe! In E. Detrick (Ed.), *Actor's choice: monologues for women* (p.100) New York: Playscripts.

McDermott, L. (2008). Feeding on mulberry leaves. In E. Detrick (Ed.), *Actor's choice: monologues for men* (p. 35) New York: Playscripts.

McDermott, L. (2008). Feeding on mulberry leaves. In E. Detrick (Ed.), *Actor's choice: monologues for teens* (p.18) New York: Playscripts.

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McDermott, L. (2006). *Feeding on mulberry leaves*. New York: Playscripts.

McDermott, L. (2006). *O'Keeffe!*. New York: Playscripts.

McDermott, L. (2007). *Mama*, from Center for Sacred Story Web site:
<http://www.centerforsacredstory.com/story.php?id=58&ref=contributorlist.php%3Fj%3Dn&refname=Contributor List>

McDermott, L. (2007). *Betting on serenity*, from Center for Sacred Story Web site:
<http://www.centerforsacredstory.com/story.php?id=57&ref=contributorlist.php%3Fj%3Dn&refname=Contributor%20List>

McDermott, L. (2005). Bricks. In K. Brown (Ed.), *Classroom scenes and monologues: Monologues short scenes audition pieces* (pp.86-90). Woodstock, IL: Dramatic Publishing.

McDermott, L. (2005). The information booth. In K. Brown (Ed.), *Classroom scenes and monologues: Monologues short scenes audition pieces* (pp.187-188). Woodstock, IL: Dramatic Publishing.

McDermott, L.(2002, summer) Real to reel: profile on VCU alumni Brad Greenquist. *Shafer Street Connections*.

McDermott, L., & Levinson, D.W. (1997). *Honey, that's life!*, New York: Estate of D.W. Levinson.

Education and Professional Development Participation

Master of Fine Arts in Theatre and Playwriting, University of Virginia, Charlottesville, VA.

Bachelor of Fine Arts, magna cum laude in Theatre and Performance, Virginia Commonwealth University, Richmond, VA.

Kennedy Center Arts in Education Conference 2017, Arlington, VA. Seminars and workshops with leading Kennedy Center staff.

Participation in the Artists as Educators Seminar, *Mapping the Journey: Planning Effective Residencies for Students* developed by The John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts with Sean Layne.

Training as a Fellow with the A+ School Programs of North Carolina, a whole school reform program which integrates the multi-arts with the core curriculum for K-12. <http://aplus-schools.ncdcr.gov/>

Training and Certification to lead Leadership Effectiveness Training, Parent Effectiveness Training and Teacher Effectiveness Training through Gordon Training International. Modules include active listening, problem ownership, conflict management.

Acting with Hal Holden at HB Studios, and Michael Moriarty at MM Acting Studio, NYC, NY.

Augusto Boal Workshop with Jan Cohen-Cruz (NYU), Virginia Tech, Blacksburg, VA. Techniques in forum theatre used a process to address community based issues.

Marianne Kubik Workshop (UVA) on Meyerhold techniques, VA Tech, Blacksburg, VA. Physical techniques in group facilitation leading to effective collaboration.

Leading From the Heart/Creative Journaling Workshop with Cynthia Bischoff, Norfolk, VA. Techniques in using journaling as a means towards self knowledge, creative exploration, and collaboration.

Clowning Workshop with Bill Irwin, UVA, Charlottesville, VA. Physical comedy, mime, and group facilitation.

Playwriting and Improvisation Workshop with Jeffrey Sweet, UVA, Charlottesville, VA.

Screenplay Workshop with Frank Pierson, UVA, Charlottesville, VA.

Seminar on Theatre Making with Julie Taymor, Corcoran Gallery, Washington, DC.

Grants and Honors

Nominee of the Leading Light Awards by the Community Foundation of the New River Valley, 2014

Appalachia Festival of Plays and Playwright Finalist, Barter Theatre, *Rumpus Room*, 2013

Flournoy Playwright for the Washington & Lee Flournoy Playwrights Festival 2011, *Feeding On Mulberry Leaves* and *Rumpus Room*

The Martha Hill Newell Playwright's Fund recipient, 2011 for *Rumpus Room*
Nominated "Favorite Teacher", Virginia Tech, 2010

Appalachian Festival of Plays and Playwright winner, Barter Theatre, *Feeding On Mulberry Leaves*, 2004

Southern Appalachian Festival of Plays, Mars Hill College Finalist for *Feeding On Mulberry Leaves*. 2003

Graduate Arts and Sciences Full Teaching Fellowship, UVA, Playwriting Program.

Research Grant from the Office of Graduate Studies, UVA for travel to New York and California to do primary research for *Shatter the Vessel*.

The Delauney Prize in Playwriting for *Feeding On Mulberry Leaves* and *Shatter the Vessel*.

Richmond Times Dispatch Phoebe for Best Supporting Actress in a Musical (Lily in *Annie*).

Community Service

Founding partner and producer of Play Away the Hunger, 2014, 2015, a community concert/food drive/fundraiser for the Radford Food Pantry, Radford, VA

Vestry member, Grace Episcopal Church, Radford, Virginia

Safe Zone Governance Committee at Radford University

Volunteer leader for Teens @ Grace, Episcopal Youth group

Founding partner of Club 210, a monthly teen club

Volunteer with Radford Clothing Bank

Volunteer with Roanoke Rescue Mission

Organized and led two mission trips to New Orleans post Hurricane Katrina

Volunteer resource for the Drama Department at Pulaski High School, nominated and sent team to Edinburgh Festival, 2010

Facilitated fundraisers for Boys Home, Inc., Hurricane Katrina victims, Project Linus Blanket, African Ministries, Elf Shelf of Radford, VA

Arts Coordinator, Myers Elem., Elkins Park, Pennsylvania

Volunteer Director for *The Nutcracker* for Children's Harbor Ghent, Norfolk, Virginia

Professional Organizations

Theatre Communications Guild, Virginia Theatre Association, The Dramatists Guild of America, Actors Equity Association, Certified Trainer for Gordon International (Leadership Effectiveness Training)

References

Dr. Elizabeth Altieri, Professor, School of Teacher Education and Leadership
Radford University
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